UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/1115
25 November 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force of 14 November 1998 (S/1998/1073),

Decides:

(a) To call upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

(b) To renew the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for another period of six months, that is, until 31 May 1999;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of this period, a report on the development in the situation and the measures taken to implement Security Council resolution 338 (1973).

98-37161 (E) 251198

UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/1116
24 November 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 24 NOVEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ERITREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward to you the attached statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea issued on 24 November 1998, which is self-explanatory.

I should be grateful if you would kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Haile MENKERIOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

98-36969 (E) 241198

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Annex

Ethiopia's crocodile tears on fires it is igniting

The Government of Ethiopia is spreading false claims that "Eritrea has stepped up artillery shelling of its positions on the Zalambesa and Badme front lines in the past few days". Addis Ababa has further tried to misconstrue the facts and associate "the stepped-up shelling" with the peace talks under way.

In the first place, it is the Government of Eritrea that has been consistently calling for a cessation of hostilities as a measure of de-escalation and to create a more conducive climate for the peace talks. This express request was tabled by Eritrea at the Ministerial Meeting in Ouagadougou on 2 August 1998. It did not materialize because Ethiopia refused to countenance any arrangement of a formal ceasefire. Moreover, Eritrea fully embraced the draft resolution at the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, in September, that called on both sides to "agree to a cessation of hostilities". But this clause was omitted from the final resolution owing to "vehement opposition from Ethiopia".

At the Ouagadougou meeting of the Organization of African Unity High-Level Delegation on 7 and 8 November, Eritrea again pressed for an agreement on a cessation of hostilities. But Ethiopia's invariable intransigence precluded any arrangement.

These are the true facts. Eritrea does not have any interest in an escalation of the conflict, and all its efforts in the past five months have indeed been geared towards seeking ways and means of reducing the existing tension. But it does respond to artillery fire and is routinely provoked by Ethiopia, whose Foreign Minister admitted as much last week when he stated that there were "exchanges on all fronts nearly every day".

Eritrea reiterates its call for an immediate cessation of all hostilities, which will bring an end to all artillery exchanges. It reaffirms that it will continue to exercise maximum restraint in the face of continued Ethiopian provocation. Eritrea further maintains that the placement of observers or independent monitors, to which Ethiopia has been objecting in the past, would help in averting these unnecessary exchanges or provide, at the minimum, independent verification of who is responsible for starting artillery exchanges.

The Government of Eritrea would like to stress, moreover, that the damage and danger from sporadic artillery exchanges, grave as it is, pales in significance to that caused by Ethiopia's continued massive, illegal and inhuman deportation of Eritreans from Ethiopia and the continued detention of thousands of Eritreans, including university exchange students, in concentration camps. The number of deportees is now over 36,000 and Ethiopia no longer cares to

fabricate excuses for its expulsions. It is sad and telling that Ethiopia continues its gross violations of human rights with impunity. Although its appeals have, for the most part, fallen on deaf ears, Eritrea once again calls on the international community to publicly condemn and take urgent action to stop the uprooting of an entire community.

UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

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GENERAL

S/1998/1117
25 November 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH, FRENCH AND SPANISH

Argentina, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, France, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 1141 (1997) of 28 November 1997, and those adopted by the General Assembly,

Taking note of the request of 22 October 1998 from the President of the Republic of Haiti to the Secretary-General (S/1998/1003),

Taking note also of the reports of the Secretary-General of 24 August 1998 (S/1998/796) and of 11 November 1998 (S/1998/1064), and the recommendations contained therein,

Commending the role of the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (MIPONUH) in assisting the Government of Haiti by supporting and contributing to the professionalization of the Haitian National Police, and expressing its appreciation to all Member States which have contributed to MIPONUH,

Commending further the role of the Representative of the Secretary-General in the coordination of activities by the United Nations system to promote institution-building, national reconciliation and economic rehabilitation in Haiti,

Noting the key role played to date by the United Nations Civilian Police, the International Civilian Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Development Programme technical assistance, as well as bilateral programmes, in helping to establish a fully functioning Haitian National Police force of adequate size and structure as an integral element of the consolidation of democracy and the revitalization of Haiti's system of justice and, in this context, stressing the importance of the reform of Haiti's system of justice for the successful development of the Haitian National Police and welcoming continued progress towards professionalization of the Haitian National Police and towards fulfilment of the May 1997 "Haitian National Police development plan for 1997-2001",

Stressing the link between peace and development, noting that significant international assistance is indispensable for sustainable development in Haiti,

and stressing that a sustained commitment by the international community and the international financial institutions to assist and support the economic, social and institutional development in Haiti is indispensable for long-term peace and security in the country,

Expressing deep concern over the prolonged political stalemate, which presents considerable risks for peace and development,

Expressing further its deep regret that this political stalemate has not yet made possible the transfer of the activities of MIPONUH to other forms of international assistance,

Recognizing that the people and the Government of Haiti bear the ultimate responsibility for national reconciliation, the maintenance of a secure and stable environment, the administration of justice, and the reconstruction of their country,

1. Reaffirms the importance of a professional, self-sustaining, fully functioning national police of adequate size and structure, able to conduct the full spectrum of police functions, for the consolidation of democracy and the revitalization of Haiti's system of justice and encourages Haiti to pursue actively its plans in these respects;

2. Decides further to paragraph 1 above, and at the request of the President of the Republic of Haiti, to extend the present mandate, including the concept of operation of MIPONUH until 30 November 1999 in order to continue to assist the Government of Haiti by supporting and contributing to the professionalization of the Haitian National Police in accordance with the arrangements set out in paragraph 32 of the report of the Secretary-General of 11 November 1998 (S/1998/1064), including mentoring Haitian national police field performance and strengthening the capability of the central directorate of the police force to manage aid provided to it from bilateral and multilateral sources;

3. Affirms that future international assistance to the Haitian National Police should be considered through United Nations specialized agencies and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and through other international and regional organizations and by Member States;

4. Requests Member States to provide appropriate support for the actions undertaken by the United Nations and by Member States pursuant to this and other relevant resolutions in order to carry out the provisions of the mandate referred to in paragraph 2 above;

5. Underlines the importance of full coordination among multilateral and bilateral contributors in order to assure the effective allocation of international assistance provided to the Haitian National Police and requests the representative of the Secretary-General to work closely with Member States to ensure bilateral and multilateral efforts are complementary;

6. Strongly urges the Haitian authorities and political leaders to fulfil their responsibilities and to negotiate urgently an end to the crisis in a spirit of tolerance and compromise;

7. Calls upon the Haitian authorities to pursue the reform and strengthening of Haiti's system of justice, in particular its penal institutions;

8. Emphasizes that economic rehabilitation and reconstruction constitute the major tasks facing the Haitian Government and people and that significant international assistance is indispensable for sustainable development in Haiti, stresses the commitment of the international community to a long-term programme of support for Haiti and invites United Nations bodies and agencies, especially the Economic and Social Council, to contribute to the designing of such a programme;

9. Requests all States to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established in resolution 975 (1995) of 30 January 1995 for the Haitian National Police, in particular for the recruitment and deployment by the United Nations Development Programme of police advisers to assist the inspector general, directorate general, and department headquarters of the Haitian National Police;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on the implementation of this resolution every three months from the date of its adoption until the mandate of MIPONUH expires on 30 November 1999;

11. Expresses its intention not to extend MIPONUH beyond 30 November 1999 and requests the Secretary-General to make recommendations on a viable transition to other forms of international assistance in his second report referred to in paragraph 10 above, for the consideration of the Security Council, taking into account the need to preserve the progress made in the reform of the Haitian National Police and to strengthen further United Nations support for the consolidation of democracy, respect for human rights and the maintenance of law and order in Haiti;

12. Decides to remain seized of the matter.